

Testimony of Gregory B. Allard
American Ambulance Service, Inc., Vice President
Association of Connecticut Ambulance Providers, Vice President
Eastern CT EMS Council, President
Council of Regional Chairpersons (Presidents), President
Government Administration and Elections Committee

Monday, March 2, 2015

Senator Cassano, Representative Jutila and distinguished members of the Government Administration and Elections Committee.

My name is Greg Allard and my testimony today is in support of:

1. *Raised Bill No. 6843, An Act Making Minor Revisions to Various Boards and Commissions Statutes.*

As President of the Eastern Connecticut Emergency Medical Services (EMS) Council (aka EMS Region 4) I am pleased to see section 6-9 of this raised bill. I have been a proponent of this idea since I was elected Regional President. This change would allow the Regional Presidents to have a voice, through a vote, in the development of the Connecticut EMS system.

One of the most important benefits the EMS Council offers the community is a voice at the grass roots level in the development of the EMS system. The Council works with and advises the Office of EMS and State and Local Elected Officials on many issues that shape the EMS system.

Council meetings are open to the public. Active participation is encouraged for anyone who lives, works, or is a member of an EMS organization within the region, or anyone who has interest in the EMS system.

As Regional President I attend meetings and informational sessions at the State and Regional level. I then share the information that I accumulate at our Regional Meetings. Attendees have the opportunity to share information with me which I can then represent in these State and Regional meetings. These Regional Meetings bring together the local, community-based providers so services can be coordinated on the local and regional level. It is important that the communication between the regions and the state be strengthened – region to state and state to region.

This formal arrangement would ensure that this type of discussion would occur on a more permanent basis.

In closing I would ask that you consider the points I made in my testimony and that you vote in favor of Raised Bill No. 6843.

Respectfully submitted,

Gregory B. Allard